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Graduate requirements may change

By Sean Comer
Opinion Editor

A Northwest Faculty Senate Proposal in the early stages of discussion could shift credit hours in some departments to make way for six hours of institutional requirements.

Separate proposals to add three hours apiece of computer competency and multicultural studies originated respectively from the Computer Science/Information Systems and Geology/Geography department committees early last fall. Neither proposal required increasing Northwest's current 124 hours required to graduate or the statewide standard of 42 core general education hours. Without altering the number of hours needed to graduate, Faculty Senate would fulfill two key aspects of Northwest's educational mission.

Two of Northwest's Educational Key Quality Indicators (KQI)—the standards on which Northwest defines and judges its curriculum—emphasize the importance of multicultural understanding and computer competency. Northwest included both as aspects of the 51 general education credits once needed to graduate. Then, in 2000, the Coordinating Board for Higher Education divided general education hours into 42 hours that could transfer to any college or university in Missouri and nine institutional requirements. As a result, Northwest eliminated both the multicultural and computer competencies.

The Board of Regents implemented the 42-credit core requirements, but received no consensus from the Faculty Senate regarding the nine credits of institutional requirements. They tabled the matter, asking the Faculty Senate to return upon a more decisive decision.

In the mind of Faculty Senate President-Elect Roy Schwarzman, the institutional requirements mark an opportunity to separate Northwest from the pack of Missouri institutions of higher education.

"When it's all said, and done, we can talk about what the faculty want to teach or what we think is a good idea," Schwarzman said. "But it really comes down to, is what forms of institutional requirements will help students have the best form of Northwest education. Ultimately, this is a big part of what constitutes the identity of a Northwest graduate, as opposed to a graduate from another university."

Evidence supporting both proposals lay in the trends in the aftermath of the initial cut. In the proposal she co-authored, Associate Professor of Computer Science Nancy Zeliff cited data from a 2005 study by Professor Carolyn Hardy resulting in two key findings: 95.6 percent of Northwest faculty deemed computer literacy and skills at least "important"; and an evaluation of 164 Northwest freshmen showed an average computer concept proficiency of 54.8 percent, an average of

see GRADUATE on 6A

'42nd Street' dances its way on stage

By Evan Young
University News Editor

For Broadway fans, the Northwest spring trimester won't officially begin until next week, when "42nd Street" arrives on campus.

The 2 1/2 hour song and dance extravaganza, part of Northwest's Encore performing arts season, begins at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23, at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center.

The musical is an onstage version of the 1933 Lloyd Bacon movie starring Ruby Keeler and Ginger Rogers, which was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture in 1934.

"42nd Street" tells the story of Peggy Sawyer, a superb dancer from Allentown, Pa. Peggy arrives in New York City in search of a Broadway career and is cast as a chorus line dancer in struggling director Julian Marsh's hit musical,

"Pretty Lady." However, after an accident breaks the ankle of the show's self-centered star, Julian convinces Peggy to take on the lead role.

Michael Stewart and Mark Bramble's musical has garnered a number of awards since its 1980 debut, including Tony Awards for Best Musical and Best Musical Revival. The music, written and composed by Harry Warren and Al Dubin, features several Broadway standards, includ-

ing "Lullaby of Broadway," "I Only Have Eyes for You" and the title piece, "42nd Street."

Matt Jameson, "42nd Street" production manager, said the show is ideal for college students.

"It's a lot of glamour and glitz," he said. "There's a chorus line and a lot of pretty girls."

Jameson and the entire cast and crew are part of Big League Theatricals, Inc., which is in its 17th season

of producing and managing shows. Jameson said their shows typically get a very positive response from students when they tour college campuses.

"We get a lot more applause (from students) because of the age level of the cast," he said. "The audience relates well to the cast because they can picture themselves on the stage."

see ENCORE on 6A



PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / PHOTO EDITOR

RESCUE WORKERS DIG through rubble at the site of the house explosion last week located on South Alco Avenue. The blast blew debris into neighboring yards and into the street.

By Stephanie Stangl
Co-Editor in Chief

Like a general waving the white flag of defeat, wind whistles through a tattered, pale, faintly floral sheet dangling from a burnt tree.

Pieces of insulation, pink and white striped pillows, a lamp shade strewn across the yard and a heaping mass of rubble lingers to remind Maryville residents of the explosion rocking 123 S. Alco Ave. last Wednesday, killing two and severely injuring one.

Although not confirmed by the state fire marshal, most suspect a gas leak of some sort caused the explosion—leaving residents worrying about the safety of their own gas-dependent homes.

Orange, plastic mesh blocks off the area that has become a sort of temporary tourist site to residents who haven't seen this sort of destruction since

'WAR ZONE' WRECKAGE



CLOTHES FROM THE house explosion on South Alco Ave. dangle on a nearby tree. Two people were killed in the explosion that rocked Maryville.

PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / PHOTO EDITOR

Although the final cause of the explosion has not been confirmed by the state fire marshal, a natural gas leak is suspected. Aquila officials remind area residents to always be alert for the smell of natural gas—a sign there may be a safety hazard.

If an odor is present:

■ Don't look for the source of the gas leak; leave the area immediately.

■ Do not light a match, turn on lights or appliances or use the telephone.

■ Go to a neighbor's house and call Aquila immediately at (800) 303-0357.

■ Follow manufacturer's instructions for safe operation of natural gas appliances.

■ Keep an approved and charged fire extinguisher near natural gas appliances or equipment.

see WAR ZONE on 6A

Comedian Sykes set to kick off array of semester activities

By Sean Comer
Opinion Editor

Northwest's Student Activities Committee promises a line-up of fun happenings this semester—and one of Entertainment Weekly's "25 Funniest People in America" headlines the whole thing.

Actress and comedian Wanda Sykes joins the list of popular entertainers to visit Northwest when she performs at 8 p.m. Wed., Feb. 1 at the Mary Linn Performing Arts Center. Though best known for her supporting roles in comedy favorites such as "Barnyard" and "Down to Earth" and the recent romantic comedy "Monster-in-Law," Sykes originally made her name on the stand-up stage. Along the way, she won an American Comedy Award for Outstanding Female Stand Up Comic

and an International Comedy Central Commie Award nod for Funniest T.V. Actress.

In addition to her film and stand-up credits, Sykes also shines on the small screen. Her television credits include Fox's "Wanda at Large," which she also produced; five years both writing; "The Chris Rock Show," on which she wrote and performed; her Comedy Central reality show, "Wanda Does It" and a one-hour special, "Wanda Sykes: Tongue Untied."

Jeremiah Lawson, assistant director of campus activities, said a recognizable name such as Sykes exemplifies the big-name acts Northwest can draw. In return, he hopes for a stellar crowd to make Sykes feel at home though he advised parental discretion for Sykes' adult-oriented humor.

"Wanda has really made a name

for herself in the last two or three years," said SAC student representative Wesley Miller. "I think Northwest has a lot of potential to bring in a lot of big names."

General admission seats for the event are \$25, and \$12 for Northwest students with a valid Bearcat card.

Elsewhere, SAC continues to expand the variety of on-campus fun for students with a full slate of other free activities. After positive feedback from students last semester, Wednesday's Live returns with another line-up of up-and-coming acts, including local favorite Ryan Patrick Imming Feb. 8. Late-Night Activities graduate assistant Matthew Moore wants to give Maryville's live music a little taste of everything.

"A lot of these artists are very mellow and acoustic," Moore said. "They're artists that are up-and-com-

ing from all over the country—Nashville, Boston, California—literally everywhere."

In a town without a club-like venue for live music, Moore would love to continue bringing fresh sounds to Northwest students' doorsteps.

"I had a lot of positive feedback last semester, when it was outside," he said. "It's a good response, I just think students don't know about it yet."

From new attractions to old favorites, Thursday Night at the Union also returns this semester. In its third year of providing free, unique entertainment, this semester boasts a variety of inexpensive chances to unwind.

Movie fans can take in "Batman Begins" on Jan. 26, "Hotel Rwanda," starring Don Cheadle, Feb. 23 or

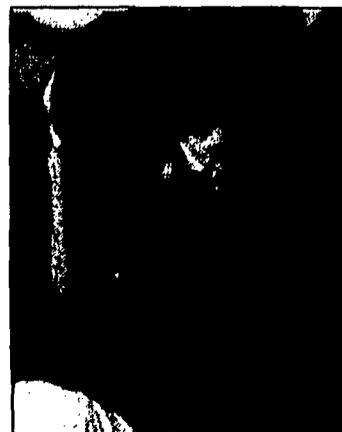


PHOTO COURTESY OF NORTHWEST NEWS
COMEDIAN WANDA SYKES
will be performing on campus with the help of the new student activities fee.

see SYKES on 6A

CAMPUSBRIEFS

Exploring Majors returns

The Northwest offices of Career Services and Advisement Assistance will hold the spring session of Exploring Majors from noon to 2 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 24, on the third floor of the J.W. Jones Student Union.

The event is open to both decided and undecided students. Representatives from

both offices will be on hand to help students set up four-year plans and discuss the different majors available at Northwest. Students will also have the opportunity to change their major before the trimester deadline, usually Feb. 1. For more information, contact Advisement Assistance at 562-1695 or Career Services at 562-1250.

KXCV off air temporarily

Northwest's public radio station, KXCV-FM, will remain off the air until next week. The station interrupted its broadcast Jan. 17 in order to install anten-

nas and other equipment at its new tower north of Maryville. The station should resume its 24-hour broadcast schedule on Thursday, Jan. 26.

Mexico deadline approaching

Students interested in traveling to Mexico this spring should sign up now for the Gran Tour de Mexico, to be held May 1-15. The deadline for registration is Jan. 22.

The trip is part of the "Contemporary Mexico" course. Students can earn

three credit hours visiting Guadalajara, Mexico City and Cancun. The tour is open to all students, regardless of major.

For more information, contact Francisco Martinez at 562-1997 or the Study Abroad office at 562-1499.

Applications ready for UB Camp

The deadline for high school sophomores and juniors wanting to enroll in the Upward Bound Math and Science program is Monday, Jan. 31. Applications are available from high school guidance counselors or online at <http://nwmissouri.edu/~ubms>.

The program is a six-week summer camp, to be held on the Northwest campus from June 3 to July 15. It is designed for students

whose family incomes are moderately low or who are potential first-generation college students.

Applicants should be interested in math, science or computer-related careers, and must have taken and passed college preparatory math and science classes each year of high school. For more information, contact the Upward Bound office at 562-1630.

Fraternity recruitment underway

For new students or returning students interested in joining a fraternity there will be an information meeting at 6 p.m., Jan. 19 in the Union Ballroom.

The meeting will familiarize those who wish to join a fraternity this spring.

Open houses will begin on Jan. 23 and continue through Jan. 25.

Open recruitment will start on Jan. 30 and end Feb. 2.

Bids will go out Feb. 3 at which time those who wish to accept the bid will sign with their chosen fraternity.

Carol Cowles leaving Northwest

Carol Cowles, associate vice president of student affairs, is leaving Northwest after seven years.

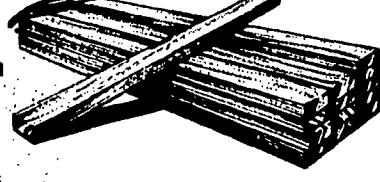
Cowles will accept a position as dean of students at Elgin Community College in Elgin, Ill. As dean of students, she will

also be in charge of financial aid and enrollment.

Kent Porterfield, vice president of student affairs, said the position has been posted and hopes to have a pool of candidates ready for interviews at the end of February.

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Students forfeit day off to help

By Brett Barger
Chief Reporter

Students from the University and the Missouri Academy of Science, Mathematics and Computing joined together Monday in celebration of Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy with a day of community service.

For the day, the students traveled to 31 sites to clean, baby-sit or just entertain residents. Some of the sites included the Ministry Center, Cain Cemetery, The Children and Family Center, Beverly Healthcare and the Horace Mann School Laboratory School.

At Horace Mann, volunteers cleaned computers and counters. At Beverly Healthcare, volunteers talked to residents and treated them to nail-polishing sessions.

Cain Cemetery drew the most attention, as 25 workers

were assigned to reset grave-stones, clean brush and perform other grounds-keeping jobs.

Kelli Farris, a sophomore English major, went to baby-sit a 2-year-old while the father was at work and the mother was shopping.

"It's about helping one another and doing something that others wouldn't do," she said.

Fabian Kilbert, a freshman English education major had some reservations about the day but is glad she participated.

"I thought it would be boring and a little intimidating," she said. "After doing it, I felt more welcome here in Maryville."

According to Angela Perkins, coordinator of the center for volunteerism and service learning, 180 students attended the service day with 70-75 com-



PHOTO BY KELIE WHITE / ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

THE VICTORY IN PRAISE Gospel Choir sings "We Shall Overcome" Monday night at the chili supper following the Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service.

ing from the Missouri Academy.

"Out of 220 signees, 180 attended, so that's a very good percentage," she said. "I heard a lot of positive feedback, so I was very pleased with that."

After the day concluded, students were treated to a chili supper in the Union Ballroom

for their work and dedication. After the dinner, a speech about King's legacy was read, followed by a performance by the Victory In Praise Gospel Choir.

This day of service on the late civil rights leader's birthday is in its seventh year of existence.

Beach-less break OK with students

By Evan Young
University News Editor

Searching for the ultimate spring break paradise, most college students don't typically include Birmingham, Ala. in the list of possible locales.

However, Northwest is offering students the opportunity to travel to Alabama's largest city to help those in need with the 2006 Alternative Spring Break program.

Approximately 48 students, in cooperation with Habitat for Humanity, will spend one week helping build houses for two or three families in the Birmingham community.

Angela Perkins, coordinator of volunteer services, said the ASB program could have a profound impact on all who get involved.

"It's something that can possibly change your life and is something that definitely changes the lives of the people



PHOTO COURTESY OF VOLUNTEER SERVICES

WHILE VOLUNTEERING in Orlando, Fla., during the 2005 Alternative Spring Break, students help build a playground.

you're building the home for," she said.

Perkins said one of the advantages of the program is being able to actually see the impact students have on the community.

"Many people who go through Habitat have never owned a home or had their own property," she said. "What's really nice about Habitat is that you get to work alongside the future homeowners and build relationships with them."

Perkins especially recommends ASB to students who already have plans for spring break.

"It leaves a lasting impression—more than a vacation you may or may not remember 10 years down the road," she said.

The Northwest ASB program started last year as part of the Habitat for Humanity Collegiate Challenge, which is one of the largest year-round alternative break programs in

the United States and Canada.

For last year's trip, 40 students went to Orlando, Fla., where they helped disadvantaged children by mentoring, playing games and building a playground.

Junior Jamie Eickhoff, assistant coordinator of volunteer services, was one of the 40 who participated. She said she'd ask any student planning on vacationing anywhere else this spring to reconsider his or her options.

"You can go to Cancun any-time in your life," she said. "But you don't get many opportunities to go on a spring break that makes a difference to others in your life."

The ASB lasts from Mar. 19-26. Registration is by application. Forms are available at the Volunteer Office on the second floor of the Union, or by emailing Perkins at angelap@nwmissouri.edu. All applications are due by Jan. 31.

Baldridge Award process flawed

By Dennis Sharkey
Co-Editor in Chief

center that was to host Ventria Biosciences.

The decision halted construction and led to the dissolution of the agreement between Northwest and Ventria. The MEFB latter approved a smaller scale plan that allowed for construction on the center to resume last month.

Hubbard said he spoke with Harry Hertz, president of the Baldridge Quality Program, and Hertz told him he was just as baffled by the judges' decision.

Hubbard said the group of examiners sent by the program did not include any educators, and the examiners made a critical mistake in the evaluation process. He was told that the examiners did not understand

the systematic steps Northwest uses to improve quality when it was clearly outlined for them.

In a press release, Chairman of the Baldridge Award Panel of Judges, Roy Bauer said, "Each step of the award process is structured to continually refine the board of examiners' depth of knowledge and understanding of the applicant's performance excellence system, ensuring that only the most outstanding applicants are recognized."

Hubbard believes this philosophy was missed early on in the examination process. He said the mistake definitely occurred in the examination process and Baldridge judges can only vote on what is on the table in front of them.

"They (Baldridge) need to modify their examination process so they can take the crapshoot stuff out of it," Hubbard said. "That is what happened last year. When you have an error in fact and you have a recommendation from a team

based upon absolute wrong data, there should be a mechanism to catch that before it ever gets to the judges. There is a huge hole in the process.

"Our numbers are off the chart on everything and were way ahead of anybody in the country, that's why we scored so high. How do they think we got there if we didn't have a process for improving? It wasn't luck."

Hubbard said he and others will continue to evaluate the feedback report and will make recommendations to Hertz to make changes in the process. He said the feedback has been valuable from applying for the award but the University needs to weigh whether or not it is worth the effort.

"We haven't decided what we're going to do yet, there is a lot of time and energy that goes into one of these," Hubbard said. "They are good for us and we do get a lot out of them, there's no question."

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Missouri plans to improve health

Hy-Vee hosts informational sessions, plans competition.

By Cali Arnold
Community News Editor

Maryville residents looking for a fun and interactive weight-loss plan signed up for the Show-Me Shape Up program at Hy-Vee Wednesday.

Gretchen Carlisle, Shape-Up coordinator, was on hand at the event to encourage community members to sign up for the competition that began Wednesday.

"The mission of the Show-Me Shape Up games is to provide an opportunity of health, fitness, family and fun for all Missourians," Carlisle said.

The five-month program, which lasts from Jan. 18 until May 31, encourages Missourians to develop healthy activities and eating habits. Participants are encouraged to form teams of two to 10 to work together to become healthier individuals.

"What we do is try to facilitate people getting together in small groups that will be accountability networks for them," Carlisle said.

Maryville resident Tanya Forbes likes the idea of the program and is considering it for herself.

"I've been looking for something like this for a long time," Forbes said. "Most diets don't work unless you



SHOW-ME SHAPE UP Coordinator Gretchen Carlisle shares program information with Tanya Forbes. The fitness program, which recently made its services available at no cost to Missouri students under 18, is working with Hy-Vee to promote health in Maryville.

change your ways...most diets are set up for failure."

Carlisle points out that for most people to be successful in any activity, they need a friend or two to push them.

"You want somebody so when you come to work you have a team that isn't going to bring donuts because they're on your team," Carlisle said. "Everybody helps everybody out."

Participants can choose to compete in the weight-loss area, which promotes a healthy diet and daily physical activity, or the accumulated activity, which involves daily physical activity.

Participants can also choose to compete in both areas.

New to the program this

year is the invitation for schools to compete. Every

student in the state can participate for free through sponsors. The three age divisions are elementary, middle school and high school, with winning schools from each division receiving a \$500 gift card for its physical education department and tennis shoes for each student.

Hy-Vee is one of the corporate sponsors for the program. Employee participation was so successful last year that additional benefits are being offered due to the corporation saving money on health care dollars.

There are currently more than 250 corporate teams participating nationwide.

Darren Atwell, assistant director at Hy-Vee, esti-

mates that approximately 20 Maryville employees are participating this year. The winning corporate team receives a \$1,000 shopping spree per team member for losing the largest percentage of body fat.

"Let me tell you, \$1,000, that is what motivates people," Carlisle said. "I've been traveling to a lot of Hy-Vees and the employees are really excited about participating."

It makes sense to their bottom line economically. If their employees are healthier, they're happier, they show up more for work, and they're costing less health care dollars."

For more information on the Show-Me Shape Up program go to Smsg.org.

CITYBRIEFS 2006 public hearing scheduled

A public hearing will be held by the Nodaway County Commission at 10 a.m. Friday, Jan. 27, in the County Court-

house room number 105. The hearing will discuss the proposed budget of Nodaway County for the year 2006.

Bank Midwest donates \$20,000

Maryville's Campaign for Community Renewal has received a \$20,000 donation from Bank Midwest in Maryville.

Bank Midwest branch manager Pam Spire showed her support for the donation in a recent release.

According to Spire, the tax

advantages will provide the bank an opportunity to contribute more than what they could have otherwise.

Bank Midwest's donation brings the total amount pledged by the citizens and corporations to \$364,000 for Phase I of the downtown revitalization project.

Aquila to lower rates

By Dennis Sharkey
Co-Editor in Chief

Natural gas prices hit an all time high last month, but thanks to Mother Nature those prices will now come down for northwest Missouri customers.

Aquila, who provides natural gas supplies to residents of Maryville, got word last Friday from the Missouri Public Service Commission to lower the rates immediately.

The company filed a special request with the commission last week to lower the gas rates by 9 percent. The rate change was to be effective at the end of the month.

George Minter, spokesperson for Aquila, said the request was a special filing due to the declining market value of natural gas. Minter said warmer than normal temperatures across the country have lowered the demand for gas this winter, forcing market prices down.

"It's a big relief to gas cus-

tomers because prices did spike to an all time high in December," Minter said. "This is a special filing because the goal is to keep rates as close to what the actual cost is. We welcome the decline and hope this provides some much needed relief."

Minter said normally the company files a rate adjustment every October but is allowed to make other request throughout the year if the market shifts dramatically in either direction.

Kevin Kelly, spokesperson for the Public Service Commission, said the staff reviewed the request and thought it would be best if the rates were to go into effect sooner than what Aquila had originally requested.

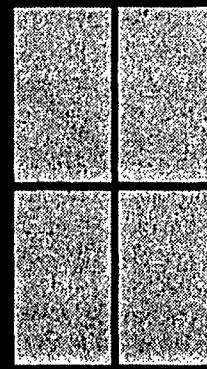
Kelly said a closer look was taken and phone calls were placed to see if the rate reduction could happen sooner and it was approved.

"Our staff actually approved the rate reduction the same day," Kelly said. "The company was able to do that and we were happy to get the process expedited quickly."

Room reassessments in January & February

Look for details soon!

Visit the Residential Life website for current students at www.nwmissouri.edu/reslife, then click "Room Re-Sign 2006" for more information.



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NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Residential Life

Fighting government waste

Politicians like to fix problems; sometimes though they fix problems that do not exist. Many of these fixes come in the form of federal programs or excessive federal spending.

One of my top priorities since coming to Congress, has been to fight government waste, fraud and abuse.

Straight talk with Sam



Sam Graves
U.S. House Representative

In addition we also made common sense

In 2005, Congress finally started to get serious about reigning in federal spending. We started with a 1 percent across the board cut to all spending. It is important that Congress take the problem of run-away federal spending seriously.

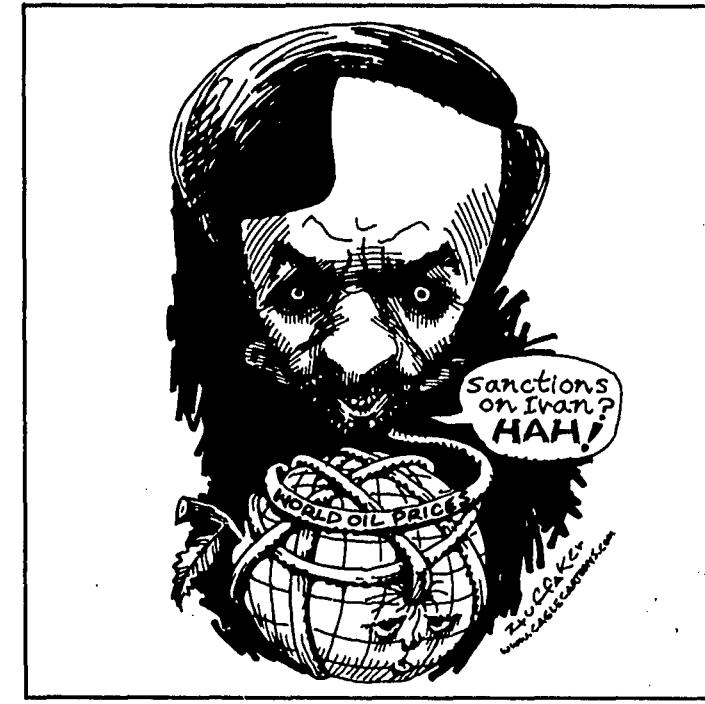
In addition we also made common sense

changes to existing programs that saved taxpayers almost \$40 billion. Our government needs to live within its means and these reforms will help get the federal deficit under control. We must stand up and take control of our budget now instead of passing our debts on to our children.

I will also continue to be your watchdog for federal spending. As Chairman of the Small Business Sub-committee on Rural Enterprises, Agriculture and Technology, I will continue to focus

on rooting out government waste, fraud and abuse. This is a committee that has broad jurisdiction to look into the effectiveness of many government programs.

I think that in order to keep our spending in check we ought to examine all federal programs. Ending outdated and unnecessary government programs is one way to save your money. I want to make sure that when politicians propose spending your money on a quick fix, there is actually a known problem.



Financial picture looking good

Last Wednesday, Gov. Matt Blunt delivered his State of the State address to a joint session of the Missouri General Assembly. This year's message was much different than twelve months ago when Missouri had huge budget problems, an unfavorable business climate, and one of the highest job loss figures in the nation. Over the last year, we have made the difficult decisions, improved our

Capitol Report



Brad Lager
District 4 Representative

state's business climate, grown jobs, and created a state government that is realistic, reasonable, and responsible.

We have trimmed the size of government, worked for greater efficiencies, and paved the way for the creation of family supporting

jobs. According to the most recent report from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, there were 38,700 new jobs created in Missouri in 2005. More

people are working and our state's economy is growing.

For the first time in five years, the state will employ fewer than 60,000 workers and our financial picture is better than in years past. Although many of my colleagues are pushing for new programs and government expansions, I believe that we must take a cautious approach and use any "unplanned revenues" to pay down the state debt and get Missouri's fiscal house in order. One of the reasons that our state found itself in a fiscal crisis was because of repeated overspending,

not patrolling the fraud, waste and abuse, and constantly spending the "savings account." We cannot allow that to occur again.

It is refreshing to know that our hard work over that last year is paying off. This was the first step in a very long process, and I know that the House, the Senate, and the Governor remain committed to making positive changes for the people of Missouri. I know that through hard work and determination, we will continue to grow jobs, grow our economy and improve the lives of Missouri's citizens.

Mandatory inspections should be just that

Residents who use either natural gas or propane as their main energy source, need to stay tuned and on top of annual inspections.

According to George Minter, Aquila Corporate Communications official, Aquila services nearly 46,000 natural gas customers in Missouri alone.

Lying awake these last few nights, I have really developed a relationship with the inner vibrations, rattles, rumbles and air flow of my

That's the fact



Jessica Lavicky
Managing Editor

gas furnace. Growing up and working around machinery, I learned to listen. If you listen closely to something, you get to understand it more.

So at night, I hear the pilot light ignite. Seconds later, I hear the motor kick in and instantly I have warm air currents moving in my room.

I can't help but wonder, when was the last inspection conducted on this furnace? How do I know when the

filter needs to be changed? Is that gurgling rumble sound normal? Should I get it checked out? Are my headaches caused by a gas leak? Then I realize that I am over-reacting.

Or am I? According to the National Ag Safety Database-University of Columbia extension, every 67 seconds, a residential fire breaks.

For those of you who live in your own house, have your appliances checked at least once a year. For renters and apartment dwellers, talk to your landlord, or go straight to the gas-service provider.

Have leaks and broken

pipes fixed immediately. Filters should be changed once a month to allow maximum air flow and to maintain a cleaner air-system.

Appliances that run on gas, such as furnaces, stoves and waterheaters, should have yearly inspections by their gas-service provider. These inspections should include filter changes and clear ventilation.

If repairs need to be made, make sure to have a trained professional look at it.

People shouldn't be scared to use gas for their appliances. With common sense and a few precautions, no one needs to be.

MAILCALL

After reading Sean Comer's Column last week I was alarmed at the ignorance and total disrespect Comer showed toward the voiceless—that is to say the lower class—and more specifically, Missouri's lower class.

Since when did Pell Grants and programs like Northwest's American Dream grant become so bad that talking about it "should blow the puberty talk out of the water?"

Upon further review, more than 150 first-year freshmen were enrolled in the Northwest program in 2004.

In order to qualify for the American Dream grant, potential students must first be accepted to Northwest as first-time freshmen, apply for and receive a federal Pell Grant and have parents' combined taxed and untaxed income of \$30,000 or less for a dependent student, or a combined student/spouse

income of \$30,000 or less for an independent student. Unlike other need-based programs in the country, Northwest's program includes room and board.

After mentioning that without programs such as American Dream, "millions would've likely never set foot on a college campus," Comer comes up with another word in describing the aftermath of seemingly purposeful funding:

"screwed."

While Comer gripes that

the government should "let people keep the thousands they instead pour down the drain to pay for somebody else's tuition, and people might not need as many grants," why not acknowledge that Northwest is trying to help the voiceless?

Pete Gutschenritter

2005 Northwest Graduate

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income of \$30,000 or less for an independent student. Unlike other need-based programs in the country, Northwest's program includes room and board.

After mentioning that

without programs such as

American Dream, "millions

would've likely never set foot

on a college campus," Comer

comes up with another word

in describing the aftermath of

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PUBLICSAFETY

Jan. 11
■Nathan A. Young, 18, Maryville, wanted on warrant for failure to appear, 400 block North Market.

■Rieko Nonaka, 25, Maryville, collided with Norma J. Bekerson, Maryville. Nonaka cited for careless and imprudent driving, Sixth Street and Main.

Jan. 12
■Bryan E. Lawson, 20, Maryville, permitting a peace disturbance, minor in possession of intoxicants; **Anthony M. Modina, 20,** Kansas City, Mo., minor in possession of intoxicants, 300 block West First.

■Vehicle damage, 800 block West Second.

■James P. Merrigan, 52, Conception Junction, Mo., collided with Carl M. Graham, 83, Maryville, West South Avenue and Main.

Jan. 13
■Gregory K. Hollenbeck, 20, Maryville, indecent exposure, 300 North Market.

■Bryant J. Schneider, 19, Liberty, Mo., possession of another's identification, 300 block North Market.

■Vehicle damage, 500 block East Fourth.

■Recovered property, carpenter level, First Street and Munn.

■Scott J. Griffin, 24, Maryville, failure to comply, 300 block South Main.

■James H. Schimming, 62, Maryville, collided with **Mary E. Cochran, 73,** Maryville. Cochran cited for failure to yield right of way, intersection of Third and Mattie.

Jan. 14
■Jennifer M. Francis, 20, Omaha, Neb., possession of 35 grams or less of marijuana, possession of drug paraphernalia, minor in possession of intoxicants; **Lyndsay A. Bliss, 20,** Maryville, minor in possession of intoxicants, false information to an officer, 1000 block North Dewey.

Jan. 15
■Jeffrey L. Sobczyk, 19, Maryville, minor in possession of intoxicants, 400 block North Buchanan.

■Teddy O. Kochler, 32, St. Joseph, Mo., driving while intoxicated, driving while revoked, careless and imprudent driving, 200 block East Fourth.

■Larceny/stealing, wicker chairs, 600 block Prather Avenue.

■Larceny, car compact disc player, 900 block North Walnut.

■Mary H. Langley, Maryville collided with an unknown driver, intersection of Jenkins and Laura.

OBITUARIES

Mildred (Ross) Mires, 93, of Maryville, died Jan. 15, 2006, at St. Francis Hospital, Maryville.

Mires was born July 10, 1912, in Maryville, to Dave P. and Mary Alice (Pike) Ross. She was a graduate of Maryville High School. On Dec. 9, 1932, she married

Elmer Guy Mires.

Mildred was a retired nurse aid, having worked at St. Francis Hospital 17 years and in private duty nursing for 10 years. A member of the Laura Street Baptist Church, she had been a member of the Maryville Garden Club, the Excelsior Club and a Red Cross volunteer.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Elmer Mires in 2002; her parents; two grandchildren, Ronald Eugene and Alex Warren Mires; two great-great-grandchildren, Robert Hayes Jr. and Heather Emery; two brothers, Eldon and Leo Ross; four sisters, Ruby Keith, Neva Damewood, Jesse Miller and Bessie Ulmer.

Survivors include three daughters, Marcella Hayes, Indiana, Iowa; Alice Jean Birkenholz and Mary Stanton, both of Maryville; two sons, Elmer Mires, Jr., Easton, Kan. and Richard Lee Mires, Pickering, Mo.; 20 grandchildren; 37 great-grandchildren; eight great-great-grandchildren; one brother, Darril Ross, Maryville, nieces and nephews.

Memorial services will be 2 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20, at Price Funeral Home Chapel, Maryville with burial in Oak Hill Cemetery, Maryville.

Military services will be conducted by the James Edward Gray American Legion Post 100, Maryville.

Memorials may be made in Mildred's name to the Laura Street Baptist Church, Building Fund.

Price Funeral Home, Maryville, is in charge of arrangements.

Carroll Lee Hall, 69, of Maryville, died Wednesday, Jan. 11, at his home.

He was born Feb. 6, 1936, in Chicago to Lester Corden and Lois Margaret (Thompson) Hall.

Carroll did maintenance work and lawn mowing. He attended the Wilcox United Methodist Church.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Lester and Lois Hall.

Survivors include a sister, Margaret A. Thomas, Emerson, Iowa, and two brothers, Norman Thompson Hall, Des Moines, Iowa and Donald Eugene Hall, Maryville; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

She was born July 17, 1921 in Tulare, Calif. to the late Bert Fogal and the late Lila (Cook) Fogal.

She was married to Amos Leroy Costello on June 14, 1941, in Las Vegas.

She was a homemaker.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Bert Everett and Lila Bernis (Cook) Fogal, and husband, Amos Leroy Costello.

She is survived by one daughter, Sheila Elaine (Costello) Bottiger and husband Charles, Ravenwood, Mo. and four grandchildren.

Mrs. Costello body has been cremated. Her ashes will be scattered at sea in California. There will be no services here.

Arrangements under the direction of Price Funeral Home, Maryville.

Russell Lee Mackey, 77,

Maryville, died Jan. 15, at Beverly Healthcare of Maryville.

He was born July 4, 1928, in Gravity, Iowa, to Elmer Lee and Inez Isabell (Wiseman) Mackey. He served in the U.S. Army.

Mackey was a retired truck driver for Crouch Brothers of St. Joseph, Mo., a member of the Laura Street Baptist Church and James Edward Gray American Legion Post 100, Maryville.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Helen on June 1, 2004 and his father.

Survivors include four sons, Gary, Mike, Chris and Tim Mackey, all of Maryville; his mother, Inez Mackey, Maryville; 11 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; a brother, Drexell, Maryville; a sister, Gladys Lenore Thompson Neal and two brothers, Highland O'Neal Thompson and Herman Edward Thompson.

Survivors include a daughter, Margaret A. Thomas, Emerson, Iowa and two sons, Norman Thompson Hall, Des Moines, Iowa and Donald Eugene Hall, Maryville; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made in Mackey's name to the Laura Street Baptist Church, Building Fund.

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A homemaker and former teacher, Lois married Lester Corden Hall on June 2, 1934, in Wilcox, Mo. Lester was a United Methodist minister. He and Lois had lived in Iowa over 30 years where they served different churches.

Hall was a member of the Wilcox United Methodist Church, Wilcox, Mo.; a 50-year member of the PEO Sisterhood and a member of the United Methodist Church, of the Wilcox church.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Helen on June 1, 2004 and his father.

Survivors include four sons, Gary, Mike, Chris and Tim Mackey, all of Maryville; his mother, Inez Mackey, Maryville; 11 grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; a brother, Drexell, Maryville; a sister, Gladys Lenore Thompson Neal and two brothers, Highland O'Neal Thompson and Herman Edward Thompson.

Survivors include a daughter, Margaret A. Thomas, Emerson, Iowa and two sons, Norman Thompson Hall, Des Moines, Iowa and Donald Eugene Hall, Maryville; four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made in Hall's name to the Wilcox United Methodist Church or the Maryville Fire Department.

BIRTHS**Owen Marshall Lassen**

Jennifer and Cash Lassen, Fillmore, Mo., are the parents of Owen Marshall Lassen, born Jan. 11, at St. Francis Hospital, Maryville.

He weighed 6 pounds, 5 ounces and joins one sibling, Brenna.

Grandparents are Paul and Bev Curran, Fillmore, Mo.; Roger and Audry Lassen, Fillmore, Mo.

Great-grandparents are Ida M. Curran, Savannah, Mo.; Everett and Sarah Wheeler, Agency, Mo., Hastings, Neb., and Laveta Lassen, Savannah, Mo.

Grant Adrik Lassen

Jennifer and Cash Lassen, Fillmore, Mo., are the parents of Grant Adrik Lassen, born Jan. 11, at St. Francis Hospital, Maryville.

He weighed 6 pounds, 13

ounces and joins one sibling, Brenna.

Grandparents are Paul and Bev Curran, Fillmore, Mo.; Roger and Audry Lassen, Fillmore, Mo.

Great-grandparents are Ida M. Curran, Savannah, Mo.; Everett and Sarah Wheeler, Agency, Mo., Hastings, Neb., and Laveta Lassen, Savannah, Mo.

Jackson Dean Boswell

Mary and Corey Boswell, Parnell, Mo., are the parents of Jackson Dean Boswell, born Jan. 12, at St. Francis Hospital, Maryville.

He weighed 6 pounds, 7 ounces and joins two siblings, Will and Ben.

Grandparents are Bill and Jane Lehleitner, Bethany, Mo.; Wayne and Brenda Boswell, Ravenwood, Mo.

Great-grandparents Joyce and the late Hal Phelps, Lee's Summit, Mo.; Arza and Laverne Boswell, Ravenwood, Mo., and Willa and the late Leo Auffert, Ravenwood, Mo.

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Doctor says mine survivor appears to be awakening but still in 'light coma'

By Vicki Smith
Associated Press Writer

MORGANTOWN, W.Va.—Sago Mine survivor Randal McCloy Jr. appears to be awakening from his coma, and his improving condition may allow him to be transferred to a rehabilitation center within a few weeks, doctors said Wednesday.

McCloy, 26, has been breathing on his own for days and is opening his eyes, said Dr. Julian Bailes of West Virginia University's Ruby Memorial Hospital, adding that he "has purposeful movement" and "is

responding to his family in slight ways."

Bailes said doctors now consider McCloy to be in a "light coma."

McCloy is believed to have suffered brain damage from lack of oxygen, but the extent of the damage is not yet known.

Because of the amount of time he spent in the mine before being rescued, "we are in many ways in uncharted territory with predicting his recovery," said Bailes, a neurosurgeon. "Many people with severe carbon monoxide poisoning end up with severe cognitive, personality,

memory, visual and motor responses. We just don't know."

McCloy has been unconscious since he was pulled from the mine more than 41 hours after the Jan. 2 explosion that led to the deaths of 12 other miners. Officials have said one miner was apparently killed by the blast itself, and the others were asphyxiated.

McCloy was moved out of intensive care Tuesday but remains on dialysis because of kidney damage.

The cause of the mine explosion has still not been determined. One theory is that lightning hit an old

well pipe, conveying electricity into the tunnels.

However, "it's very premature to speculate on any contribution that that may have had," Richard Gates, lead investigator for the federal Mine Safety and Health Administration, said Wednesday.

The union "seeks to interfere with the investigation in order to exploit the tragedy at the Sago Mine for their own purposes in an effort to revive organizing efforts that have floundered for more than a decade," the company said. But union President Cecil Roberts defended the union's

involvement. "This investigation is about finding out the truth," he said. "If the company has nothing to hide, it should favor an open investigation with all parties participating fully."

He also said the employees who sought union representation would remain anonymous, despite what he said were attempts by the coal company to learn their names. "MSHA did not release their identities, nor will we," he said.

MSHA also announced Wednesday that it will conduct an internal review of its oversight of the Sago Mine.

WAR ZONE: Resident slowly recovers after explosion

continued from 1A

Northwest Administration Building caught fire in 1979.

"It was like a war zone, like a bomb had been dropped from a plane," said Sgt. Jeremy Ferris of Maryville Public Safety, who was one of the first police officials to arrive at the scene.

The remains of Lois Hall were found in the front yard next to a tree—her blackened skin and clothes mostly gone, Ferris said. Carroll, her son, was discovered around midnight at the center of the house.

Lois' son and sole survivor of the explosion, Don, was life-flighted to University of Kansas Medical Center Burn Unit in Kansas City, Kan., with much clothing and hair disintegrated and face blackened.

World War II veteran Donald Sanford lives next door to the Hall's and said the explosion reminded him of falling bombs. He and his

wife, Mary Jane, were sitting on their loveseat in the bedroom preparing to watch a movie when they heard a tremendous explosion and saw a huge flash of light.

Rushing outside in her robe and bare feet, Mary Jane saw hundreds of people flocking next door to the site of the explosion.

"It was a holocaust of flames engulfing the whole thing," Donald said.

Many houses surrounding the area received structural damage or had things catapulted into their yards from the intense explosion.

The Sanford's blue walls are etched with a few cracks, a porch railing is smashed and two fence posts are torn away—glass shards and pages of Rachel Cade's, "A Silver Chalice" sprinkled across the lawn.

Hall was upgraded to fair condition as of Monday.

Cards can be sent to KU Medical Center, 3901 Rainbow Boulevard, Kansas City, Kan., 66103.

GRADUATE: New institutional requirements possible in future

continued from 1A

scores from five content areas.

Client computing manager Merlin Miller noted in the proposal that "the computer help desk has logged more calls in the past two years on basic operations of the Microsoft Office Suite software (Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access) than when a computer course was a general education requirement."

Associate Professor of Geography Mark Corson never agreed with the contradictory message of eliminating a multicultural requirement in the first place.

"What can you say about Northwest when they say 'We say [multiculturalism] is important but we actually got rid of our requirement for it?'" Corson said. "I don't buy it."

Corson feels Northwest's high concentration of international students in a homogeneous midwestern environment only further necessitates an increased emphasis on multiculturalism.

"When you drive into Maryville, what's the first thing you see? Kawasaki," Corson said. "Particularly for Midwestern students who are not at the center of places like Washington or New York City, a multicultural understanding is essential. My personal belief, and I feel quite adamantly about this, is that we need to have that as an institutional requirement."

"What are we up to, a 4-percent combination of minority and international students?" Corson added. "If anybody

needs multicultural training, by virtue of their geography and demographic, our students do."

Corson co-authored his department's proposal alongside colleague Richard Frucht of the History Department, reasoning somewhat from his experiences in army field operations in Kosovo and Iraq. For four months, he strived to reason with native Kosovars not to seek revenge on neighboring Serbs for the attacks of the Serbian persecution. For him, the statements of the ninth KQI echo his experiences.

"I can't tell you how many people I talked to that had their neighbors burn their house down," Corson said. "Multicultural understanding is essential to combat ethno-nationalism and racism."

The original decision to eliminate a computer science requirement stemmed from popularly quoted studies proclaiming children at a young age to have higher average computer skills than their parents. However, recent trends hinted that the computer savvy of the current generation didn't improve exponentially, but rather leveled off.

Zeliff pointed out that while elementary students may be able to effectively use Microsoft Word and middle school students have a working knowledge of PowerPoint, the curriculum fails to keep up with advancements. Students fall behind advancements in software. By the time they arrive in college, ready to prepare for the job market, their foundation has fallen through.

"If they're in middle school, they're 14 at the optimum age," Zeliff said. "But what is Microsoft Word going to look like in five years? What is an operating system going to look like? When they get to college, they're going to know what they knew five or six years ago."

"Our curriculum changes every year at Northwest, to reflect what's happening now," Zeliff added. "We are aware that the curriculums in middle school and high school include computers, but that's five or six years ago—what do they need to know now?"

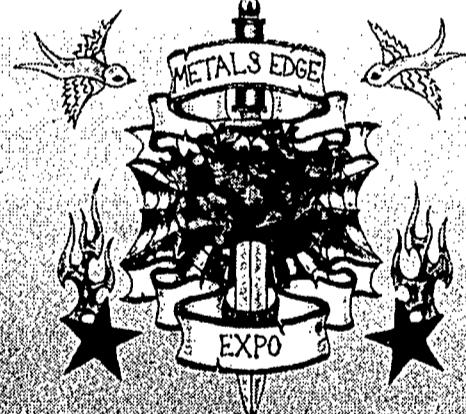
Furthermore, Provost Kichoon Yang believes constantly evolving job markets and technology necessitate the development of versatile, long-term skills.

"Foundational knowledge and skills, more than short-term job skills, are important in higher education," Yang said. "If you learn a particular craft, that will get you the first job, but maybe not the second, third, fourth, fifth or seventh job. To do that, you have to have foundational competencies."

"The university curriculum is becoming more specialized because we live in an era of specialization," he added. "A college education emphasizes specialized knowledge more so than a student's individual moral and intellectual development. It is my opinion that you have to have a balanced education that teaches specialized knowledge and intellectual and moral development. General education is where most of that development takes place."

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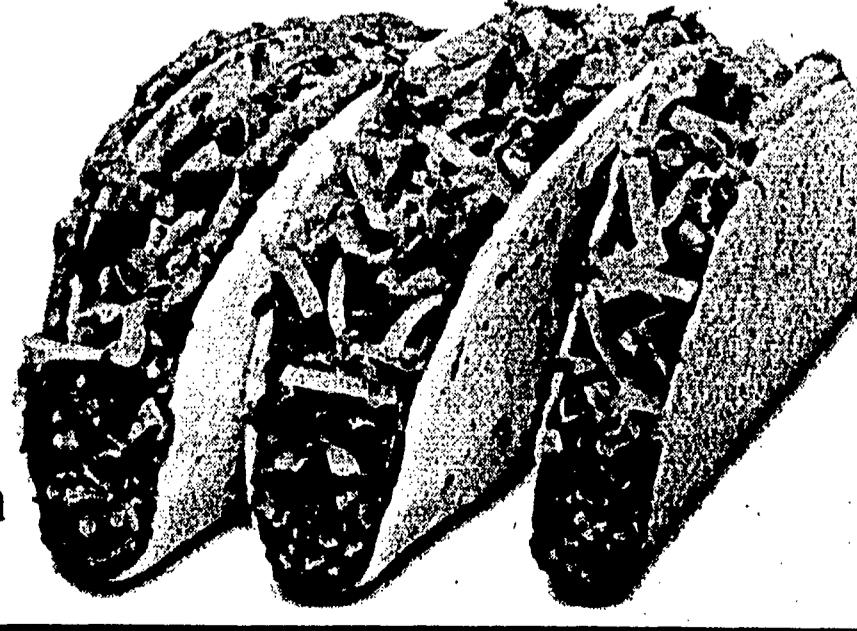
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ENCORE: Musical road trips to Maryville for performance

continued from 1A

big number after another."

Tickets are \$22 and can be purchased Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Student Services Center on the first floor of the Administration Building. Tickets can also be ordered over the phone at 562-1212 or online at Nwmissouri.edu/tickets.

SYKES: Campus Activity fee serves up entertainment

continued from 1A

"Ferris Bueller's Day Off," March 16. At 10 p.m. in the Union Ballroom Jan. 19, students can shake it for prizes at the Thursday Night Dance-Off. Next month, Northwest card sharks can compete for a video

game chair and other prizes in a Texas Hold 'Em Tournament at 9 p.m. in the Union Ballroom Feb. 2. Students wanting a full list of activities and events for the semester can pick up a schedule from Moore or Lawson at the SAC office on the second floor of the Union.

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Tool takes head coach position

By Cali Arnold
Community News Editor

The search for a new head volleyball coach at Northwest came to an end last week.

University Athletic Director Bob Boerigter announced the hiring of Anna Tool Thursday. She replaced three-year coach Lori Slight, who resigned on Nov. 3 due to personal reasons.

Tool spent the last two seasons as head coach at Division III Virginia Wesleyan College. There she compiled a 38-22 overall record and an Old Dominion Athletic Conference tournament semifinal appearance in 2005.

"I had a good two years at Virginia Wesleyan," Tool said. "It was a tough decision to make (to leave)."

Boerigter is impressed with Tool's experience as both a coach and as a Division II athlete at the University of Minnesota-Morris.

"In our conversations, with her having been at all three of those divisions (I, II, and III), she really feels that Division II is the division she feels most comfortable with," Boerigter said. "She comes in with some good experience and some good presence and I think will provide very, very good leadership."

Prior to her position at VWC, Tool was the assistant coach at North Carolina State, a Division I program, from 2001 to 2003. Much of her time was spent as recruiting coordinator, team travel coordinator and game management coordinator.

"It was another great experience," Tool said. "I spent a great deal of time recruiting. I liked the practices, dynamics and game management of it all."

As a graduate assistant for South Dakota State from 1999 to 2000, Tool oversaw the academic aspect of the team. She expects a high level of achievement on the academic side with hard work and time management emphasized. A 3.0 grade point average per trimester is expected, with required study hours if that is not achieved.

"A player has to have the right mentality. Recruitment is based on on- and off-court standards," Tool said.

Although she enjoyed her experiences in all three divisions, Tool says she definitely had the urge to get back to Division II. Not only is it the most exciting level for her as a coach, she also has more control over



Anna Tool
New volleyball coach

Howard's late hustle clinches conference win

By Jerome Boettcher
Sports Editor

With 35 seconds left, Northwest guard Mose Howard avoided several Emporia State defenders and finally got fouled 10 seconds later.

Howard had a chance with 24.1 seconds left to move the game from a three-point lead to possibly out of contention. However, his shot on the front end of a one-and-one went flat from the moment he shot it. It nicked the right side of the rim and Emporia's Tyrell Sledge grabbed the rebound.

"My calf muscles were cramping up and I really didn't want to lift up on my toes too much," Howard said. "I was just trying to shoot it soft with my arm muscles."

Howard then plucked the ball out of Sledge's arms for a steal and then got fouled with 18.8 seconds left. This time Howard hit nothing but net on the first free throw to give Northwest a two-possession lead and then sunk the next one.

"He's a gamer, he really is a gamer," head coach Steve Tappmeyer said. "Boy when he let that first free throw go I could tell, I was just hoping it would catch a little bit of the front rim because he really let it go short. It was kind of good to see him not only chase it down, but then be the guy to go back up and hit two."

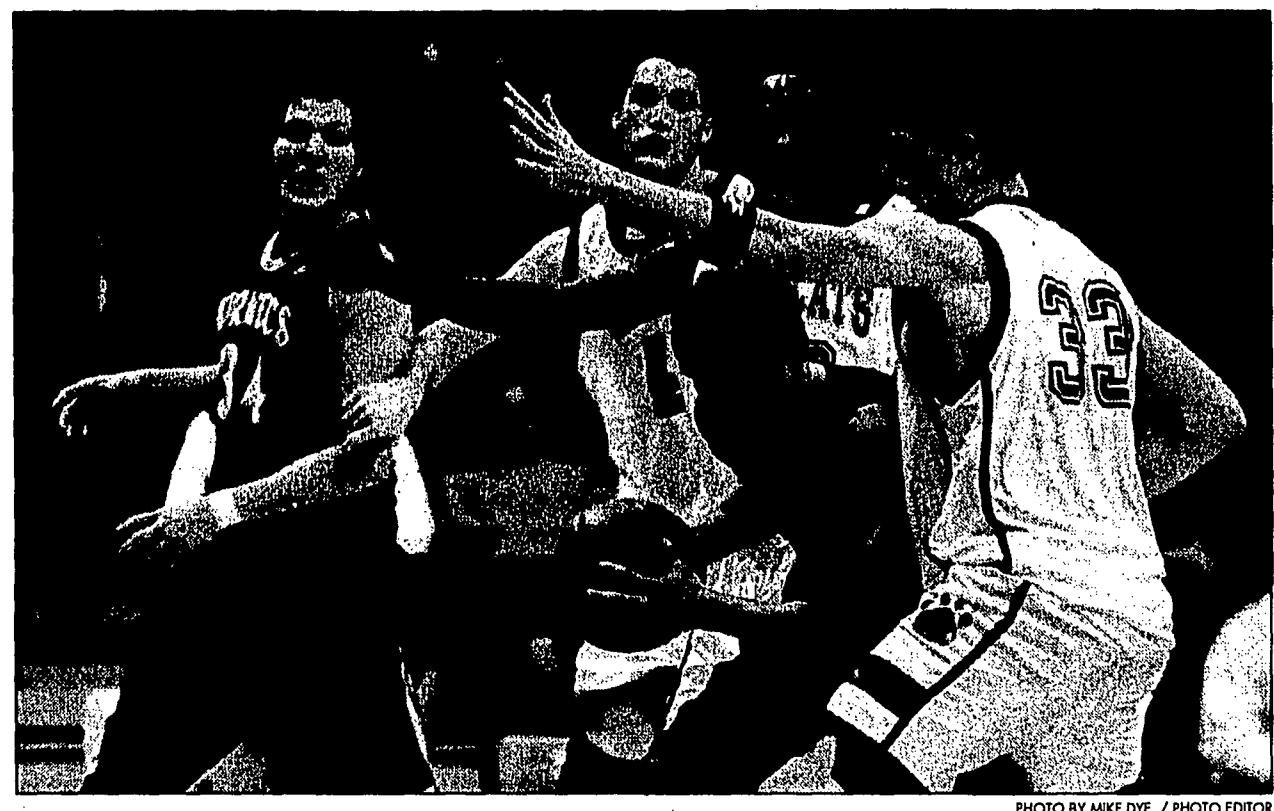


PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / PHOTO EDITOR

THE BEARCATS swarmed the hornets Wednesday night at Bearcat Arena and came away with the win. No. 23 Northwest defeated conference rival Emporia State 72-67.

Thanks to Howard's hustle and four different players scoring in double digits, the Bearcats pulled away with a 72-67 victory Wednesday night at Bearcat Arena.

The Bearcats only trailed once in the second half but had to ward off the Hornets throughout. Northwest led by seven with under six minutes left. Sledge scored his only five points of the game in the next minute but cut it to a five point deficit. Northwest again took a seven point lead on a Xzavier Gaines three pointer with 2:10 left. Emporia State's Leroy Dawson hit his fourth three pointer of the night to cut the

score to 66-62. On the next possession with the shot clock winding down, Matt Withers hit a jumper to extend the lead to six.

"With that play that we ran, that is what I am supposed to do—is pop out, and I was wide open," Withers said. "They came into help on Reggie (Robinson) and I was wide open."

Dawson answered right back with a jumper. Northwest's Andy Peterson put the lead back at six once again with a pair of free throws. Again Dawson responded eight seconds later with another three pointer, while two defenders in his face. He finished the

game with 25 points.

"He's a good player, I love challenges," Howard, who guarded Dawson, said. "I love guarding the best player on the other team because I get that chance. I just took the challenge tonight, we got the win, he might have got 25 points tonight but we got the win."

Howard finished the night with 14 points and eight rebounds. Withers has a second career double-double with 11 rebounds and 16 points, a career-high. Hunter Henry also chipped in 10

see MEN on 2B

Nelson explodes as 'Cats fall to No. 3 Hornets

By Brendan Kelley
Assistant Sports Editor

When coach Gene Steinmeyer's team took the floor on Wednesday, he was hoping that he would see a different team and a different effort than he saw last Saturday against Missouri Southern.

Instead of a turn around, Steinmeyer and the Bearcats found themselves on the wrong end of an 18-point blowout as they fell 82-64 to No. 3 Emporia State.

After the game Steinmeyer wasn't looking to point fingers at anyone but himself.

"I think maybe I beat them up a little bit after the Southern game. I was afraid of it and I tried to take it a little bit easy on practice," he said. "I'm afraid I burst their bubble on Saturday and I shouldn't have done it, because of me making too big of a deal out of Southern. I think it carried over a little bit and I regret doing it."

The 'Cats found themselves in a back and forth battle with the Hornets in the first half, but a very efficient offense and a balanced scoring attack gave Emporia a 39-30 lead at the break.

"Their size intimidated us, at the first media timeout we had taken one perimeter shot, everything else was within five or

10 feet," Steinmeyer said. "Some shots that would have normally went up didn't because we were hesitant."

The Hornets went on a nine to two run to start the second half and never looked back. Emporia caught fire shooting 48 percent from the floor and connecting on 41 percent of their threes as the 'Cats struggled to knock in shots.

The Cat's shot 27 percent from the floor and 16 percent from behind the arc in the second half.

"I think their pressure bothered us and it was hard to get moving," senior Meghan Blay said. "We weren't using or making screens the way we should of."

Sophomore Kelli Nelson led Northwest scorers, with a career high 18 points. Emporia's Andi McAlexander led all scorers with 21.

"I was just trying to run and play hard and whatever came, came," Nelson said. "Defense comes first, then offense."

Next on tap for the 'Cats (10-7, 2-4) is Pittsburgh State at home, Saturday at 1:30 p.m.

"We have to get on a roll somewhere," Steinmeyer said. "We have a shot to get something done, but right now we're not getting better as a team. We have to find a way to get better."

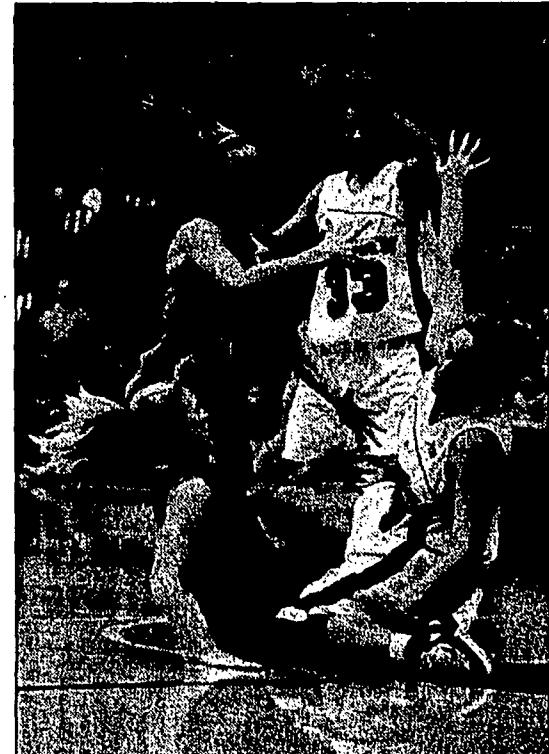


PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / PHOTO EDITOR

THE NORTHWEST Bearcats collided with the Emporia State Hornets Wednesday night at Bearcat Arena. The Hornets won 82-64.

Mose-ing Along: Junior enjoys new home

By Jerome Boettcher
Sports Editor

During Saturday's game against Missouri Southern, the Northwest men's basketball team fell silent.

While usual scorers Austin Meyer and Xzavier Gaines combined for only five points, point guard Mose Howard picked up the slack.

The junior transfer scored 19 points, 11 in the second half—the Bearcats needed every one of them in their 52-50 victory.

But it shouldn't come as a shock that Howard was the go-to man. Heading into Wednesday night's game Howard leads the team in points per game with 13 and is averaging 16.8 points per conference contest.

"He's been, I can't say a surprise, we thought he was going to be a good player coming in," head coach Steve Tappmeyer said. "From the standpoint of what kind of person he is and taking care of the responsibilities of the point guard position, which is a tough one to play here, he's done about everything we could ask of him."

Howard is using every chance he gets as he is at his third college in three years. Howard, a native of Omaha, Neb., went to Iowa Western Community College in Council Bluffs, Iowa, for his freshman season. After a year he transferred to the University of Missouri at Kansas City, a



PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / PHOTO EDITOR

MOSE HOWARD drives in against a Missouri Southern defender last week. Howard has found a home at Northwest.

Division I school. However, Howard was disappointed at UMKC last season.

Howard played in all 28 games but averaged just 11 minutes a game. "I just felt like I should have been playing more," Howard said. "... I was still a team player and we were still winning but I just wasn't happy and it is just all about being happy."

So last year Howard talked to former Northwest All-American Kelvin Parker and Parker suggested that he visit Northwest.

"I think he went over and they played pick-up games at UMKC after the season last year," Tappmeyer said. "Kelvin had played against him a couple times. Kelvin's got a good feel for what kind of player we want and he also has a feel for what type of person that we want. He called up and said you should check this Mose Howard out."

Howard contacted Northwest, since Tappmeyer couldn't contact him first since he was transferring out. Tappmeyer said UMKC was fine with Howard looking around.

After a few visits and meeting with Tappmeyer and associate head coach Darren Vorderbruegge, Howard thought it was the best move for him.

"I had two more years, I didn't feel like my situation would have gotten any better there if I would have stuck around so I just wanted to find a home," Howard said.

Howard is not the lone transfer. There are five transfers new to the team this season and one of three from a Division I school. Howard said that part of reason he originally transferred to a Division I program was the fact that it was that higher level.

"I think that's what I got caught up in coming from a

see CHANCE on 2B

WOMEN

POLLINGPLACE
USA TODAY/ESPN DIVISION II
TOP 25 COACHES' POLL

1. Washburn University (Kan.)	16-0
2. University of North Dakota - Grand Forks	20-0
3. Emporia State*	16-1
4. Saint Cloud State (Minn.)	17-0
5. Drury University (Mo.)	14-1
6. Glenville State College (W.Va.)	12-0
7. University Of Charleston (W.Va.)	14-1
8. Henderson State University (Ark.)	15-1
9. Western Washington University	13-1
10. Rollins College (Fla.)	13-0
11. Stonehill College (Mass.)	16-0
12. California State University - Chico	11-2
13. Grand Valley State University (Mich.)	14-3
14. Florida Gulf Coast University	16-1
15. Delta State University (Miss.)	14-1
16. American International College (Mass.)	13-2
17. West Texas A&M University	12-2
18. Lake Superior State University (Mich.)	12-3
19. California State University - Bakersfield	12-1
20. University Of Minnesota-Duluth	16-3
21. Clayton State University (Ga.)	11-2
22. Valdosta State University (Ga.)	12-4
23. Fort Valley State University (Ga.)	13-1
24. Angelo State University (Texas)	11-4
25. Fairmont State University (W.Va.)	12-2

* indicates MIAA school

MIAA STANDINGS

Team	MIAA Overall
Washburn	6-0 16-0
Emporia State	5-1 16-1
Missouri Western	3-2 13-3
Missouri Southern	3-2 11-5
Central Missouri	3-3 10-6
Northwest	2-3 10-6
Pittsburg State	2-3 9-7
Southwest Baptist	1-5 9-8
Truman State	0-5 8-7

UPCOMING GAMES

Saturday, Jan. 21	
Pittsburgh State at Northwest	
1:30 p.m.	
Truman State at Emporia State	
1:30 p.m.	
Missouri Western at Southwest Baptist	5:30 p.m.
Washburn at Missouri Southern	5:30 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 24	
Missouri Southern at Southwest Baptist	5:45 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 25	
Central Missouri at Pittsburg State	5:30 p.m.
Northwest at Truman State	5:30 p.m.
Washburn at Missouri Western	5:30 p.m.

Isley finishes on top in Nebraska

Coach not happy with overall team performance

By Brett Barger
Chief Reporter

The Northwest track team had three individuals place in the top three Saturday at the Holiday Inn Invitational in Lincoln, Neb.

The Bearcats competed with 15 schools including Nebraska-Kearney, Wayne State and MIAA rival Emporia State.

For the second straight week, junior Eric Isley placed first in the 800-meter run with a time of 1:56.19 to lead the men's team. Freshman Keelen Green placed third in the 60-meter dash with a time of 6.94 seconds to begin his season and sophomore Courtland Ingram finished fourth in the pole vault with a height of 13' 11 1/4".

Northwest men's track coach Richard Alsup was pleased with some individual performances but not with the team performance.

"Courtland Ingram did very well in the hurdles. I also thought Eric Isley did very well," he said. "Overall, we did not do very well."

The team has also had to endure injuries early in the season.

Freshman E.J. Hawkins strained his Achilles' tendon and did not compete in the meet. Senior Dallas Flynn,

who was one of the premier throwers in the MIAA last year, is out for the season after undergoing shoulder surgery.

Ingram said that the team performed well and is beginning to shape up.

"I thought we did pretty well overall this week, despite the intense workouts last week," he said.

On the women's side, the 'Cats had one top three finish with senior Abby Diselhoff finishing third in the weight throw with a mark of 46' 0". The Bearcats have also seen injuries to their squad early in the season.

All-American senior Alisha Samuel did compete in the 60-meter dash, but was scratched from the final after straining a hamstring. Samuel is expected to be ready for the their next meet in two weeks.

Sophomore Audrey Bailey sprained her ankle in the semifinals of the 60-meter hurdles. Her injury is also not serious. Junior Stacey Loemker, who finished second in the weight throw last week, did not place.

Northwest women's track coach Scott Lorek was encouraged by the individual performances.

"I was impressed by our distance runners and hurdlers," he said. "Overall we did well."

The men's team will be in action this Saturday at the Kip Janvrin Pentathlon in Crete, Neb., while both teams will be in action Jan. 27-28 at the Iowa State Open in Ames, Iowa.



PHOTO BY KELIE WHITE / ASSISTANT PHOTO EDITOR

XZAVIER GAINES goes up for a shot in an earlier contest against Southwest Baptist. Northwest will host Pittsburg State at 3:30 Saturday and will try to move towards the top of the MIAA.

MEN: Cats escape with win

points, while Xzavier Gaines had 15 of his own, 10 in the second half. This performance came off the heels of a game in which he didn't score at all.

Robinson saw action for the first time in awhile after injuring his left shoulder a couple weeks ago. He played 24 minutes and scored two points.

Northwest (14-3, 5-1) now hosts Pittsburg State at 3:30 p.m. Saturday. Northwest sits near the top of the conference below Southwest Baptist.

Northwest is also ranked for the first time this season sitting 23rd in the nation. The 'Cats also are ranked first in the South Central Regional polls.

CHANCE: Howard brings positive impact to new team

continued from 1B

junior college," Howard said about going to a Division I program. "Actually, when I was in high school, Northwest recruited me. I really didn't know anything about Northwest (at the time). You know in high school, you want to go to Division I. I had that dream, I was there but things didn't work out. But it is just all about winning."

Things are working out for Howard at North-



Mose Howard

Junior point guard

west as he also leads the team in steals and assists on the season as well as in scoring. Tappmeyer said he is gaining that respect as a leader and he keeps taking steps everyday not only as a player but also as a person.

"I think he's just matured as a person, he's a lot more professional about

how he approaches things," Tappmeyer said. "He was a little bit looser when he came in and early on didn't always take criticism real well... After that happened, you sit down and you visit with him about where you see him being and what you need out of him and it doesn't take him long to turn around and get that squared away."

Howard has gelled well with his teammates and doesn't regret transferring to Northwest.

He said he feels like he has found his team and recognizes the family atmosphere.

"I felt like I found a good home, that's what I was looking for, that's what I've been looking for since I've been in college," Howard said. "It's my third college, so I'm just happy I'm here and I'm just trying to win a championship here."

COACH: Academics stressed along with sports

continued from 1B

recruiting with athletic scholarships. With the help of the scholarships, Tool feels she can choose "quality over quantity" for her teams.

Individual practices led by assistant coach Andrea

King will begin next week. Tool begins coaching duties on Feb. 13. The team cannot officially start practicing until after Feb. 15.

Tool, along with her husband and 2-year-old son, are excited about the University and community. She is looking

forward to getting situated in the small-town setting in time for the birth of her second child in late April.

"The timing works out very well," Tool said. "I'll be up for recruiting by the end of June and the beginning of July."

MEN

POLLINGPLACE
NABC/DIVISION II
COACHES POLL

1. Montevallo, Ala.	16-1
2. Western Washington	13-1
3. Seattle Pacific, Wash.	13-1
4. Saint Joseph's, Ind.	15-1
5. Northern State, S.D.	14-1
6. Southwest Baptist*	16-1
7. Virginia Union	11-2
8. Fort Hays State, Kan.	14-1
9. Southern Indiana	17-2
10. Stonehill, Mass.	14-1
11. Findlay, Ohio	14-2
12. Barton, N.C.	11-1
13. Alabama-Huntsville	14-2
14. Delta State, Miss.	13-1
15. Johnson C. Smith, N.C.	11-3
16. Grand Canyon, Ariz.	14-3
17. Mount Olive, N.C.	11-3
18. Winona State, Minn.	12-4
19. Minnesota State-Mankato	15-3
20. Grand Valley State, Mich.	14-3
21. Alderson-Broaddus, W.Va.	11-2
22. West Virginia State	12-3
23. Northwest	13-3
24. Truman State*	13-3
25. Saint Rose, N.Y.	12-4

* indicates MIAA school

MIAA STANDINGS

Team	MIAA Overall
Southwest Baptist	5-1 16-1
Northwest	4-1 13-3
Emporia State	4-2 13-5
Truman State	3-2 13-3
Central Missouri	3-3 13-4
Missouri Southern	2-3 9-7
Pittsburg State	2-3 6-10
Missouri Western	1-4 10-6
Washburn	0-5 6-9

UPCOMING GAMES

Saturday, Jan. 21	
Pittsburg State at Northwest	3:30 p.m.
Truman State at Emporia State	3:30 p.m.
Missouri Western at Southwest Baptist	7:30 p.m.
Washburn at Missouri Southern	7:30 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 22	
Montana State-Billings at Emporia State	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 24	
Missouri Southern at Southwest Baptist	7:45 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 25	
Central Missouri at Pittsburg State	7:30 p.m.
Northwest at Truman State	7:30 p.m.
Washburn at Missouri Western	7:30 p.m.

CONFERENCE STATS

MIAA Scoring Leaders
1. Michael Hicks, CMSU.....21.3
2. Eddie Jackson, PSU.....20.3
3. Demarius Bold, MWSU.....17.4
4. Quentin Edwards, MSSU.....16.2
5. Tyrell Sledge, ESU.....15.9
6. Shawn Herman, ESU.....14.9
7. Jason Warren, MWSU.....14.4
8. Sheldon Pace, SBU.....14.2
9. Brady Sisk, Washburn.....13.5
10. Jason Jemison, SBU.....13.4

TEAM STATS

Northwest Scoring Leaders
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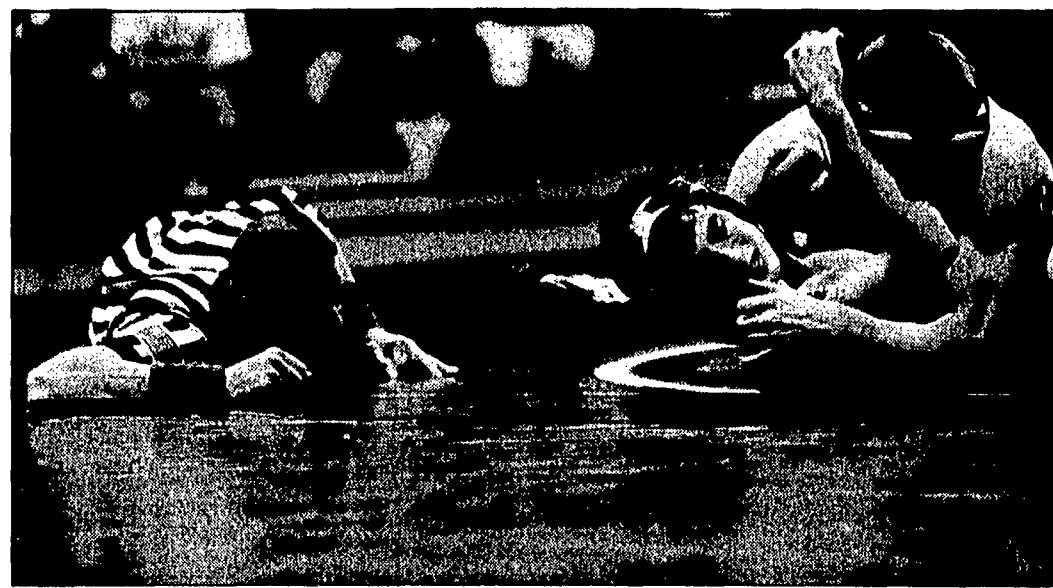


PHOTO BY MIKE DYE / PHOTO EDITOR

MARYVILLE SPOOFHOUNDS wrestler Tanner Archer struggles to gain control of the match from Cameron's Colby Morgan in the 140 weight range on Tuesday night at the Maryville High School. The Dragons beat the 'Hounds 49-24.

Dragons crush Spoofhounds

By Andrew Glover
Chief Reporter

As a senior, Maryville's Cody Gillenwater has taken on the role of a leader, and not just on the mat. Gillenwater is one of three seniors on the wrestling team, and the only state qualifier from last season on the team.

"He is one of our two captains," Maryville coach Joe Drake said. "(Tuesday) He wrestled a very quality kid, and we thought Cody was a little slow in the start and wasn't aggressive enough, but as soon as he started pushing the opponent then he obviously he dominated and took over."

Gillenwater put his team on the board with a technical fall over Cameron's Jake Bates.

"I just went out there with the mentality that if I pushed him in the early going he'd get tired and all I'll have to do is know in my mind that I'm not tired," Gillenwater said of his 130-pound match.

The Dragons kept the 'hounds off the scoreboard until the fifth match of the night.

Drake feels that with his team inexperience, they wrestled exceptionally well against a very good Cameron squad.

"Against Cameron, it may be hard to see, but we are actually getting better, we may not be winning individual matches yet, and we may not be winning the duals, but we are getting better," Drake said. "We're seeing good performances from some of our wrestlers, like I said Cameron is a very quality team."

Maryville's Luke Lancaster put some energy back into the home crowd with a major decision over Brad Breshears in the 152-pound match. His win provided a spark for the 'Hounds.

In the 160-pound match, Cliff Robertson defeated his opponent Brandon Tunks, 8-2.

An uncompleted move by Maryville's Eligio Littrell cost him the match that went back

and forth at 171 pounds. The match was won by Cameron's Chad Utt.

"What happened right at the end was we were in a position to win the match, probably actually pin him, and we did not finish the moves correctly and it cost him," Drake said. "That's the little things that we're still working on, if the kid finishes the move correctly he possibly wins that match."

Maryville went on to finish strong in the 215 pound and heavyweight matches. Maryville's Zach Sherry pinned his man at 215 pounds.

Maryville's Dexter Partridge followed with a pin of his own against Cameron's Austin Bailey at heavyweight. Getting a pin as fast as he could was the key to the win for Partridge.

"I wrestled him last Saturday and I won within a minute," Partridge said.

Look for the 'Hounds back in action at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday at No. 1 Platte County, in Platte City, Mo.

Colts had upset coming due to lack of starters

Their perfect season disappeared in week 15, while their Super Bowl hopes disappeared last weekend.

For those that don't yet know who I am referring to, it is the Indianapolis Colts.

Last Sunday afternoon the Colts trotted into their first playoff game after having a first-round bye. Their opponent was the Pittsburgh Steelers who were coming off a first-round upset of the Cincinnati Bengals.

In past playoff meetings, the Steelers have had the Colts number ending the Colts' season on more than one occasion, most notably in 1995 when a last second pass fell incomplete giving the Steelers the win.

Sunday's game was predicted to be close, but with the Colts coming out on top.

The Steelers came out with a touchdown on their opening drive and never looked back. The Colts made a valiant effort

Oh, Don't you know?

Andrew Glover
Chief Reporter

to come from behind, only to be halted on a missed field goal with 21 seconds remaining.

During the game it was apparent the time off the Colts had played a major part in their inability to maintain any momentum.

Most Colt players hadn't played a meaningful game in over 30 days. Now whether that is because of the first-round bye, or just because they wrapped up their playoff spot so early, that is up for debate.

The opinion I have is that because they secured their spot in the playoffs and home-field advantage throughout the playoffs, they went into the game without playing much competition the last month.

Two weeks before the regular season ended, most of the Colts' star players watched the game from the sideline in street clothes. The purpose of this

was to prevent injury and to rest up for the playoffs.

I don't agree with this tactic, injuries come and go to every team, and you can't prevent injuries by not playing your stars. I understand the value they have to their team's playoff run, but when the playoffs end early for their team how much is their value really worth?

The Colts' coach, Tony Dungy, repeatedly said that a Super Bowl win was more important than having an undefeated season. Playing the team's second-string players almost assured them that they would not complete their perfect season.

I'm not saying they would have won if they would have played their starters for the entire season, but the game could have gone more in their favor.

Football is a game that requires a lot of physical wear and tear, and if your pulling players off the field to assure that doesn't happen, your team will more than likely pay for it later.

Maryville basketball recaps

Maryville Boys Basketball

The Maryville Spoofhounds boys' basketball team traveled to Mid-Buchanan on Tuesday night, hoping to find a way to turn around their season.

The end result was a 51-36 loss, the 'Hounds tenth loss of the season. They now sit at 4-10.

Maryville used a quick start to grab a 13-8 lead at the end of the first quarter and took a four-point lead into halftime, 21-17.

Wolfer were the only Spoofhounds to score in the game.

Bishop Miege's leading scorer was Shay Williams with 11 points.

The 'Hounds failed to score in the first quarter of play and were outscored 27-4 at the half.

Maryville Girls Basketball

The Maryville girls basketball team dropped its tournament opener to Bishop Miege 58-10 Tuesday night at the Bishop Miege Tournament.

Jaclyn Guess and Kim

Partridge were the only Spoofhounds to score in the game. Bishop Miege's leading scorer was Shay Williams with 11 points.

The 'Hounds failed to score in the first quarter of play and were outscored 27-4 at the half.

Bishop Miege is currently ranked number 7 in the Kansas Coach's Association Poll.

Maryville played Kansas City Schlagle Wednesday and finishes the tournament tonight.

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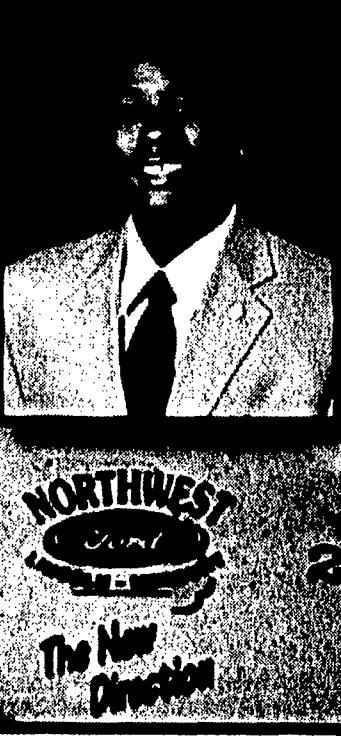
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Spotlight Player



Northwest Ford - Lincoln Mercury's

HOWARD

Mose Howard led the Bearcats with 19 points in their 52-50 victory over Missouri Southern. Howard, the leading scorer for the 'Cats, averages 13 points per game.

3rd place South Missouri

'VILLE WEATHER

Today
Go to the park



52 / 28

Friday
Wear galoshes



38 / 19

Saturday
Go to the mall



34 / 23

Sunday
Do homework



39 / 20

Monday
Skip day



42 / 25

Tuesday
Go shopping



43 / 26

Wednesday
Wash your car



47 / 27

From National Weather Service

COUNTDOWN

26 days until
Valentine's Day

32 days until
midterm exams

60 days until
Spring Break

Your Man Finds Prism Educational



The Stroller

he heard one of the most awkward songs ever. It was most likely musically brilliant, but it confused the heck out of Your Man. It sounded like someone composed a song using a Ouija board.

"S...U...C...K."

The performers all wore a grimace on their faces that seemed to say, "Please kill us now. This song is horrible."

Despite its oddity, the performers did very well. They took a jumbled piece of music and added what musicality they could to it.

The composer of the piece was probably angry when the wind symphony politely declined to fling feces as all over the crowd as indicated on page 12, but that's what you get with artistic freedom.

With phrases such as "a place solid enough to promote the fluid and experimental" and "traditions rich and deep best handled lightly lest we

choke what we seek to improve," Your Man began to question the sanity of the composer and the lyricist.

Of course, it was a brilliant move for the Centennial Society to commission a work from two men who had most likely never heard of Northwest.

Your Man did get one thing from the song: the value of outsourcing. You see, no one can take the blame for the song because someone else from somewhere else wrote it. That's the kind of thinking that wins three Missouri Quality Awards.

Despite the final song, Your Man did take some time to appreciate Northwest's history during the concert. He thought about all the different things students have witnessed since 1905 and how they have affected us.

He thought about the wars and students going to fight for our country, some never to return. He thought

about the Civil Rights Movement, the space race, the fall of the Berlin Wall, Sept. 11, and other events that occurred during Northwest's life.

He realized just how easy it is to get caught up in the now and forget the then.

Your Man knows Northwest has been through a lot, and with any luck, we'll see a lot more history before this institution fades away.

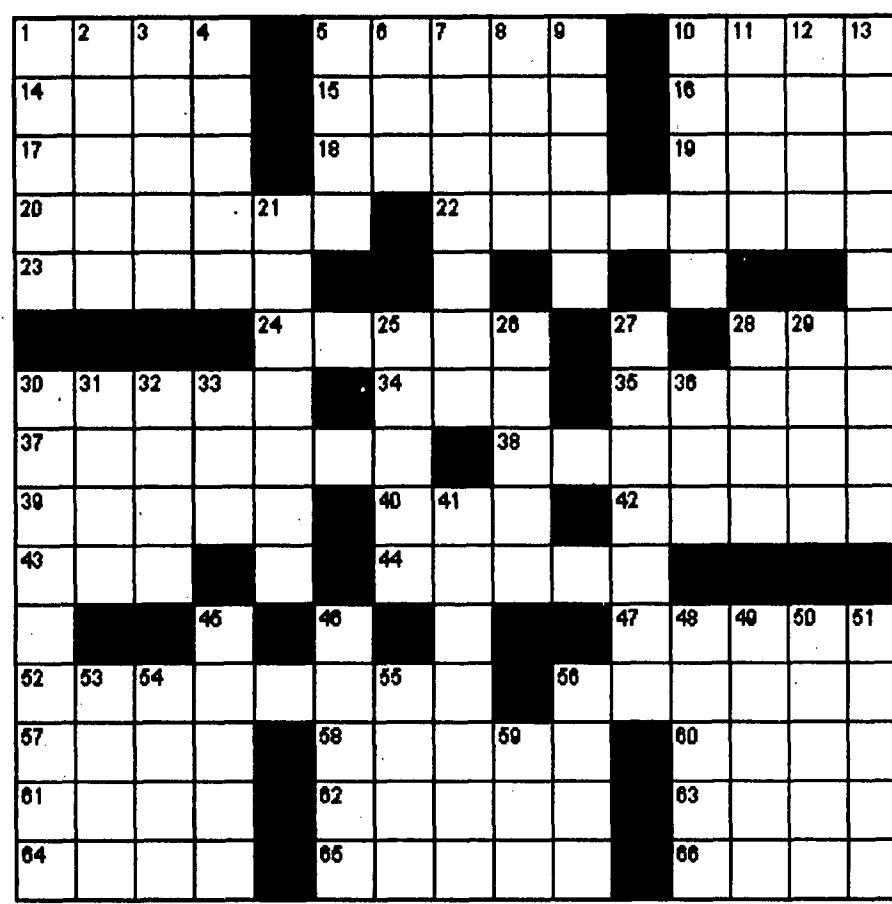
Throughout it all, Your Man hopes for one thing: knowledge.

Your Man knows the one thing that has kept this institution alive is innovation and a continuing quest to find the truth.

With any luck, we'll be around to hear the 150th anniversary song for Northwest, and hopefully it will make more sense.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

PUZZLEMANIA



Across

1. Semitrailer
5. Disparaging term for WW1 German soldier
10. Split
14. (Babylonian) god of storms and wind
15. Gold (Latin)
16. Female horse
17. Liquid secreted by the liver
18. Shoulder scarf of fur
19. Egg-shaped
20. To set upon
22. Military aircraft
23. Capital of Tibet
24. More recent
28. Lyric poem
30. Encouraged
34. Ballyhoo
35. Cuff
37. Securing with a noose
38. Meddler
39. Shut
40. Evening
42. Enthusiastic
43. Not on

44. Effeminate boy

47. Meeker

52. Ornamental flower garden

56. Feminine

57. Gelling agent

58. Enthusiastic

60. Frozen treats

61. Capital of Fiji

62. Frighten

63. Having a sound mind

64. Ooze

65. Twill-weave fabric

66. Hit sharply

Down

1. American dwarf fan palms

2. Female name

3. Mediterranean island

4. Notions

5. Expose to warmth

6. Not in

7. Packed

8. Hawaiian native dance

9. Very hard mineral

10. Young salmon

11. Molten rock

12. Republic in SW Asia

13. Transmission of data

21. Encrusted with sugar

25. Earnings

26. Flowers

27. Altar boy

28. Exclamation of mild dismay

29. Musical composition for two

30. Surround

31. Ball game

32. Blunder

33. Shaped like an S

36. Male and female name

41. Impure acetic acid

45. Leash

46. Attire

48. Wrong

49. Parrot

50. Female given name

51. Set again

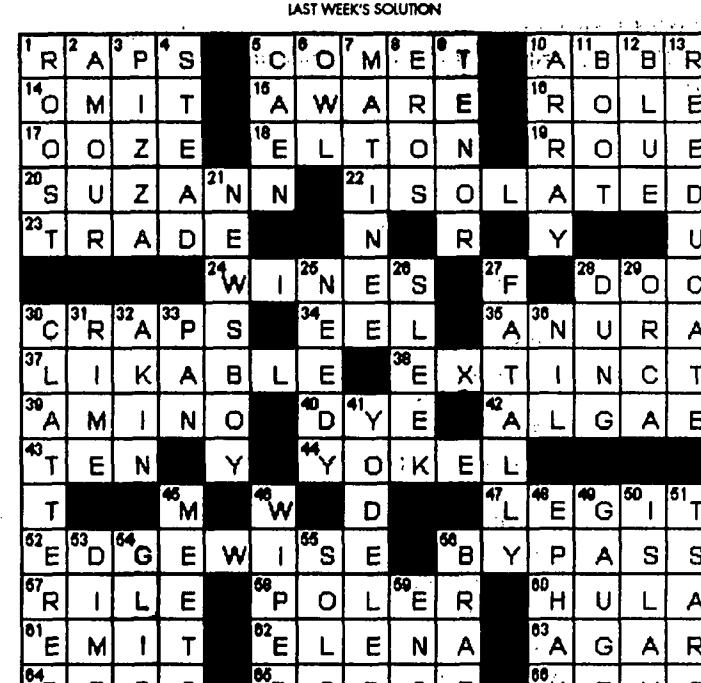
53. Malarial fever

54. Talk irrationally

55. Speed contest

56. Gratis

59. Unit of energy



Northwest Missourian Classifieds

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For Rent: 2 Bedroom apartment for rent, utilities paid, C/A, 2 miles from campus, non-smokers please, \$425. Call Linda at

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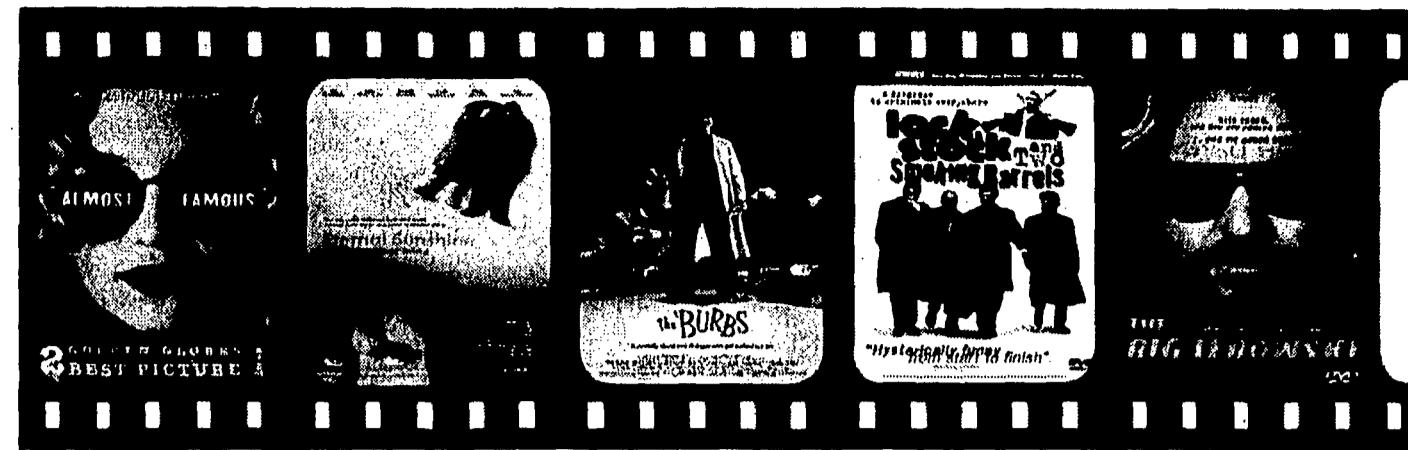
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**Top 10**1. **Check On It**, Beyoncé & Slim Thug.2. **Dirty Little Secret**, The All-American Rejects3. **We Belong Together**, Gavin DeGraw4. **Grillz (Dirty)**, Nelly feat. Paul Wall, Ali &...5. **Dance, Dance**, Fall Out Boy6. **Photograph**, Nickelback7. **L.O.V.E.**, Ashlee Simpson8. **Stickwitu**, The Pussycat Dolls9. **Laffy Taffy**, D4L10. **Beverly Hills**, Weezer**Editor's Flick Picks**

Each week a Missourian staffer will entice you to broaden your viewing pleasure with their favorites.

1. **"Almost Famous"** is hands-down my favorite movie of all time. It chronicles the journey of a 15 year old kid, dreaming of being a rock critic, as he travels across the country with one of his favorite bands. I love everything about this movie, from the music to the acting, to the message. It is a must see for any aspiring writer, journalist or otherwise.

2. **"Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind."** This abstract movie is pieced together in such chaotic manner, it reminds me of natural courses of an intense relationship. It challenges the viewer with one significant question: if you knew a relationship was going to end badly, would the memories and time spent be enough to become involved anyway?

3. **"The 'Burbs"** is probably the funniest movie I have ever seen. It runs neck and neck with "Christmas Vacation." The idea of insane suburbanites investigating their neighbors for murder is awesome. Bruce Dern's character is the most hilarious portrayal I have ever seen on film. This movie just has such a wonderful grip on insanity.

4. **"Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels,"** is a perfect movie. It begins with four best friends getting in way over their heads during a high stakes poker game with a big-time gangster. The rest of the film is their pursuit to come up with the half-million they owe 'Hatchet Harry.' The random and unpredictable nature is what makes the movie so memorable.

Craven soars with Red Eye

By Ashley Bally
Features Editor

role that is both strong and merciless. It is easy to see that Murphy is a force to be reckoned with as Hollywood's next mainstream villain.

M c A d a m s character gets off to a shaky start. She comes off as

a weak character, which is typical of the role of women in the suspense/horror genre, but quickly turns it around and becomes the heroine the role called for.

Craven has finally moved away from his typical, stereotype-infested, horror films.

We can finally say goodbye to the days of "Scream" and the travesty that was "Cursed." I suppose "Scream" and "Cursed" both had a large number of fans, then they turned 14 and joined the rest of the world.

More importantly, Craven is moving on without, mediocre screenwriter, Kevin Williamson. This also reminds me how thankful I am that "Dawson's Creek" is off the air.

This refreshing revival of Craven's talents as a suspense director, is a reminder of the vision that streamed through when I watched "The Serpent and the Rainbow" for the first time.

Hopefully, "Red Eye" will set a higher standard to encourage Craven to continue making films aimed at an audience above the age of 13.

McAdams plays Lisa, the manager of a chic Miami hotel, boarding the red-eye out of Texas where she meets a mysterious and handsome stranger. Jack Ripper (Murphy) quickly invades Lisa's life and orders her to make a call that will end the life of a high profile Homeland Security director in exchange for the life of her father.

What I liked most about this film is how everything stays on one steadily progressing track. It gets directly to the point and doesn't fill space with useless scenes that lose the viewer's attention. The direct plot involvement allows for a much more detailed look into the struggle that goes on between these two characters.

Murphy's character is hard-nosed and violent. He maintains a level in his

Dark Water drowns in unoriginality

By Ashley Bally
Features Editor

"Dark Water" is another installment in the growing number of poorly remade Japanese horror films.

This movie doesn't present anything the audience didn't see when "The Ring" came out. "Dark Water" is complete with slow-paced action, unrealistic horror and creepy little girls.

"Dark Water" is set in the confines of a very depressing New York City. Jennifer Connelly ('Requiem for a Dream,' 'A Beautiful Mind') plays Dahlia, a single mother engulfed in a bitter custody battle with her recent ex-husband. Connelly



takes Ceci, her young daughter, and moves into a dilapidated apartment complex they soon discover is haunted by a former tenant.

Hmmm. Original huh?

So, the film was supposed to scare and thrill audiences everywhere, but didn't.

The movie focuses heavily on the relationship between Connelly and her abusive mother. The director spends more time developing flash backs and emphasizing the internal family drama that the "horror" message gets lost. The distraction pulls away from the one of the most important aspects of the film, Connelly's daughter.

The plot development is so slow that the subject of a haunting is nearly forgotten. The context of the haunting as a whole doesn't even take center stage until the last 15 minutes of the film.

By the end of the movie I felt cheated. I was in the market for a horror film and was suckered into family drama.

On the bright side, Connally did give an outstanding performance. Her character presented the case of a woman under immense pressure and psychotic tendencies spiraling further away from reality, in a charismatic and convincing way. It was the only light in this drab picture.

The only audience this film will appeal to, are dedicated Connally fans. Other than that, keep two hours of your life and find something better to do.

Need something to do?

Check out the entertainment calendar.

Thursday 19

■George Strait. @ Qwest Center Omaha, Omaha, Neb. 7:30 p.m. \$49-59.

■Altar Boyz. @ Temple For the Performing Arts, Des Moines, Iowa. 7:30 p.m. \$40.

■Vertigo. @ VooDoo Lounge, Kansas City, Mo. 8 p.m. \$10. Must be 21.

Friday 20

■Josh Turner. @ Val Air Ballroom, Des Moines, Iowa. 8 p.m. \$10.

■Professional Boxing. @ Beaumont Club, Kansas City, Mo. 7 p.m. \$25-75.

■On Sale Today -The Sub City Take Action Tour. @ Granada, Lawrence, Kan. \$17.

Saturday 21

■The Feds. @ Hurricane Kansas City, Kansas City, Mo. 9:30 p.m. \$7. Must be 21 or older with an I.D.

■PBR: Professional Bull Riders. @ Tyson Events Center/Gateway Arena, Sioux City, Iowa. 8 p.m. \$15-40.

Sunday 22

■Frozen. @ Des Moines Civic Center, Des Moines, Iowa. 3 p.m.. \$16.

■Monster Jam Monster Truck Racing. @ Kemper Arena, Kansas City, Mo. 2 p.m. \$10-25.

Monday 23

■Tea Leaf Green. @ Bottleneck, Lawrence, Kan. 9 p.m.

■Steff Mahan. @ Mojos, Columbia, Mo. 8:30 p.m. \$7.

Tuesday 24

■Cake. @ Uptown Theater, Kansas City, Mo. 8 p.m. \$32.

■Zilla. @ Bottleneck, Lawrence, Kan. 9 p.m. \$8.

■Hard-Fi. @ Grand Emporium, Kansas City, Mo. 9 p.m. \$8, \$2 minor surcharge for anyone under 21.

Wednesday 25

■42nd Street. @ Orpheum Theatre, Sioux City, Iowa. 7:30 p.m. \$29-49.

■Judy Collins. @ Liberty Hall, Lawrence, Kan. 8 p.m. \$34.50-46.

Thursday 26

■Nile. @ Sokol Auditorium, Omaha, Neb. 8 p.m. \$20.

■Smucker's Stars On Ice. @ Kemper Arena, Kansas City, Mo. 7 p.m. \$100.

■Ludo. @ The Blue Note, Columbia, Mo. 7 p.m. \$6, \$2 minor surcharge for anyone under 21.

The Hangar

Starting Friday...
Hoodwinked 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 (Fri.-Sat.)
Chronicles of Narnia 3:45, 6:30, 9:30 (Fri.-Sat.)
Glory Road 4:00, 7:00, 9:40 (Fri.-Sat.)
Underworld: Evolution 4:00, 6:30, 9:00 (Fri.-Sat.)
Last Holiday 3:30, 7:00, 9:45 (Fri.-Sat.)

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An Open Book

Journalist makes name as a ghost writer

By Steven Kunkel
Staff Writer

Imagine rummaging through a mansion with no air conditioning on a warm, humid day and all of a sudden you step into a cold spot in the house—a classic sign of a ghost.

Northwest Mass Communications Instructor Jason Offutt has received the chance to write, "Ghosthunting Missouri" from Emmis Books, which is due out August 2006. This is not Offutt's first chance to write a book, "On Being Dad," was released last summer.

The 'Ghosthunting' concept spurred from Offutt's story, published in October 2004 by Missouri Life Magazine, about six haunted spots in Missouri.

"Do you know how fun it is to sit in a 120-year-old Victorian house on the second floor where somebody supposedly hanged themselves?" Offutt said. "Sitting there in the complete dark, alone, waiting for something to happen—it's a blast."

Although he is taking this opportunity to try and scope out ghosts, he is more importantly writing the book for research, which allows him to provide his journalistic point of view.

"Mainly, I'm not going at it as a ghost hunter. I'm going at it more as a journalist, because I've been a journalist since 1987; that's the kind of writing I do," Offutt said. "I interview people who are familiar with the historical aspect of the site I'm in. I interview people who have seen and felt things and then I try to put myself into a position to feel a cold spot, to hear footsteps while no one else is in the house and maybe see something. So far I really haven't seen much."

Offutt is an avid ghost enthusiast. He loves the aspect of ghosts

which stem from childhood experiences.

"Once when I was about 8 or 9, I was walking through a hallway in my house, which was about a 100 plus-year-old school house. I was walking through this hall to get a book and in front of me was about a 6 year-old kid, brown hair, flannel shirt, no expression on his face," Offutt said. "The weird thing was I was the youngest kid in the house and I could see through this one. That's kind of where my interest spurred from."

Offutt also has the support of his family as he writes this book.

"I think it's perfect for him," Kim, his wife, said. "He's always been into that super-natural sort of thing."

Offutt said, the book will examine around 40 haunted areas in Missouri. Areas inspected will range from Workman's Chapel in Maryville, to a mansion in Hannibal, Mo.

Maryville has two haunted spots found in "Ghosthunting Missouri," including Workman's Chapel and Roberta Hall.

Offutt does not discount the fact anything he has sighted could have an explanation behind it, but he enjoys discovering the possibilities of ghosts.

"I don't even know if I believe in ghosts," Offutt said. "There could be logical explanations to all of this. I just know it's fun to explore and talk about."

While the work of writing a book may seem hard, Offutt finds the experience fun and interesting.

"Talking to people who have seen ghosts, talking to people that have felt someone running their hands through their hair and they turn around and no one's there, talking to people that have experienced things like that is just fun," Offutt said.

Instructor chronicles Northwest history the 'write' way

By Andrew Glover
Chief Reporter

Northwest has endured many ups and downs through time, and there are many stories to be told.

Writing a coffee table book to commemorate this event was more than necessary.

Transitions: A Hundred Years of Northwest, covers stories, pictures and the history of Northwest. The book was authored by those who lived it, but Janice Brandon-Falcone, associate professor of History, Humanities, Philosophy and Political Science, constructed it.

The task of putting this book together this was presented to Brandon-Falcone by her former department chair, Thomas Carneal.

The process of putting thoughts and ideas together for the book was brought up a few years before the Centennial Celebration.

"It was maybe three years before the Centennial when we first started talking about it, 2002 maybe 2001," Brandon-Falcone said. "But we really didn't start working on it until about two years before it came out."

Brandon-Falcone was not alone through this process. She had many aides helping her dig up information. Rebecca Shelp, a former student of Brandon-Falcone, did a lot of research. The book was put together with a team effort.

Gathering information for

the book was completed different ways. Brandon-Falcone used a number of interviews with people to assemble quotes or general stories.

"I really relied heavily on the first history for the first 50 years by Mattie Dykes, Behind the Birches, and relied heavily on her stories," Brandon-Falcone said. "I also looked at yearbooks, student newspapers and the local newspaper. The minutes from the Board of Regents all helped to kind of fill in the gaps."

Brandon-Falcone really felt the toughest part of the book was deciding what should be included.

"It isn't like a regular history book where you get to put as much information as you can in," Brandon-Falcone said. "I knew that I was going to be limited to the amount of text I was going to write because we wanted pictures."

Just like stories told today about the past, every story has more than one ending. This was another dilemma that Brandon-Falcone ran into, she tried to tell both sides of each story.

The experience of writing this book was a new one to Brandon-Falcone. Coffee table books have a different style than most traditional history books and she was not accustomed to that style.

"The overall purpose was to celebrate 100 years of Northwest," Brandon-Falcone said. "It wasn't to tell all the down and dirty details, or the scandal, it was really a celebratory look at 100 years of Northwest."

